

# Viking Tales

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## A Before Reading

1 What do you know about the Vikings?

a Where did they live? \_\_\_\_\_

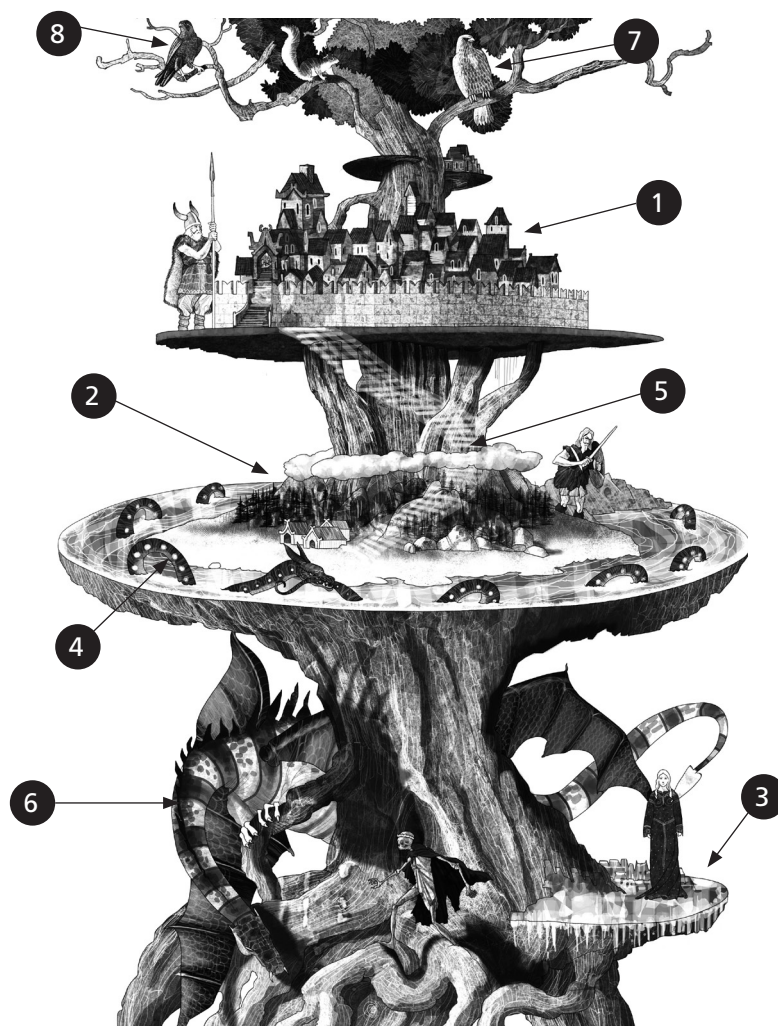
b When did they live? \_\_\_\_\_

c What did they believe in? \_\_\_\_\_

Now read page 4 to check your ideas.

2 The picture shows the tree, Yggdrasil, where the Vikings believed the gods and the people lived. Where do you think the following are in the picture?

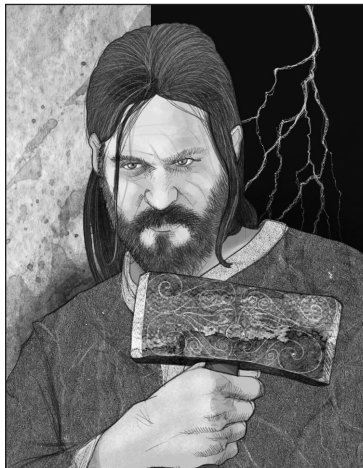
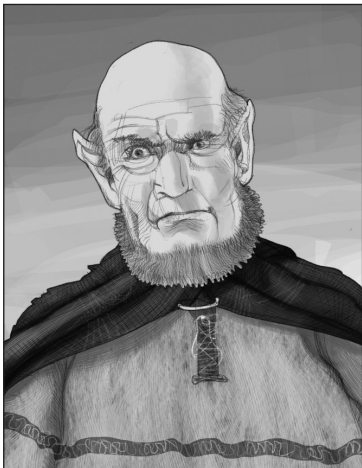

A bridge like a burning rainbow    An eagle    A hawk    Asgard, where the gods lived  
Midgard, where the people lived    Niflheim, where people went after they died  
The dragon, Nidhogg    The snake, Jormungand



Now read page 4 to check your answers.

- 3 The Vikings told tales about the gods, the giants and the elves. Guess which words and phrases describe the god, elf and giant in the pictures. Write them in the table.

could make thunder and lightning    had a magic hammer    lived at the top of the tree in Asgard  
 lived in a big palace or 'hall'    loved to make problems for the gods  
 was a very, very big and strong person    was good at making jewellery and swords    was greedy  
 woke up at night and died if he saw the sun

The god, Thor	The dark elf, Alvis	The giant, Thrym
		

Now read pages 4–7 and check your ideas.

## B While Reading

- 4 a In the stories, there are lots of tricks. As you read, make notes in the table of who plays tricks on who, and what the tricks are.

Who plays the trick?	On who?	The trick
Thor and the gods	The giant Thrym	Thor pretends to be Thrym's bride, Freyja, to get back the hammer, Mjollnir

- b Do you like playing tricks? Is there a special day in the year when people play tricks in your country? Write a few sentences.

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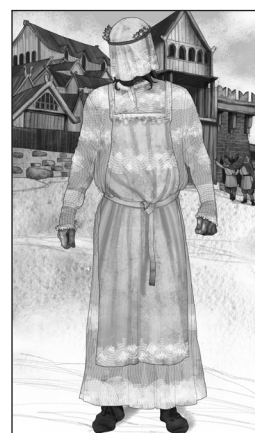
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- 5 Who do the following people in the story want to marry? Complete the table as you read.

Who?	Wants to marry who?	What do they have to do before marrying?	Do they marry?
Thrym			
Sigrdrifa			
Alvis, the elf			



## C After Reading

- 6 Imagine that you are Thialfi returning home to your parents on the farm after visiting the giants. Write your answers to these questions from your parents.

- a Did you meet the giants? What were they like?

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- b How did you get to the country of the giants?

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- c Where did you sleep?

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- d What happened? Did you fight the giants? Did you win?

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- 7 Imagine you are making a film of one of the stories. Which actors would you choose to play the important people in the film? Write their names on the film poster below. Choose a picture from the book and draw it on your poster. Then write a few sentences introducing the story to encourage people to go to see the film.

**Main actors:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**FILM NAME:**

\_\_\_\_\_

An introduction to the film: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_